

***Weather***

**WEATHER OPERATIONS**

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**OPR:** HQ AFSOC/DOW (CMSgt Stephen L. Rosemier)

**Certified by:** HQ AFSOC/DOW (Col James H. Love, Jr.)

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This instruction implements AFD 15-1, *Atmospheric and Space Environmental Support*. It establishes requirements and responsibilities for weather support to Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) and US Army special operations forces (ARSOF). It also identifies reporting requirements and provides general weather operations planning and execution guidance. This publication applies to AFSOC-gained Air National Guard (ANG) weather flights upon mobilization and when published in the ANGIND 2.

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## Chapter 1

### GENERAL

**1.1. Scope.** This instruction identifies requirements and responsibilities for weather support to AFSOF and ARSOF units. It also identifies reporting requirements and provides general weather operations planning and execution guidance. Weather readiness training programs, reporting requirements, and planning guidance developed and published by HQ AFSOC Weather Division (DOW) and AFSOC units complement this instruction.

### 1.2. Concept of Operations:

1.2.1. The Air Force and US Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) dedicate weather resources to directly support AFSOC forces at Hurlburt Field, RAF Mildenhall, Kadena AB, and Fort Bragg. Additionally, the AF and USSOCOM dedicate weather resources to directly support US Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) forces at Fort Bragg, Fort Campbell, Fort Benning, Fort Lewis, Fort Carson, Hunter AAF, Torii Station, and Panzer Kaserne.

1.2.2. The AFSOC weather support architecture includes parachutists supporting airborne units in combat weather teams (CWT) airborne (A) and non-jump qualified CWTs supporting AFSOC air mission units. The CWT(A)s are assigned to Army SOF units in USASOC in both CONUS and OCONUS locations and they support US Army Special Forces, Rangers, and the 160<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Aviation Regiment (SOAR). AFSOC's CWTs also support the Air Force SOF aviation assets of the 16<sup>th</sup> SOW, 352<sup>nd</sup> SOG, and the 353<sup>rd</sup> SOG. Because of the uniqueness of the AFSOC weather support mission, it is important to understand how the command, operational, and functional lines connect to each unit. Additionally, the AFSOC weather unit OCONUS command and operational relationships add yet another twist.

1.2.2.1. Administrative Control (ADCON). ADCON is the formal command line of the unit and/or individual. This includes EPRs/OPRs, courts martial authority, etc. All AFSOC active duty weather units fall under formal AF administrative control with a chain of command that leads ultimately to the AFSOC/CC. Figure 1-1 shows the administrative organization of all AFSOC weather units.

1.2.2.2. Operational Control (OPCON). Units and or individuals are controlled by a designated commander, not necessarily in the formal chain of command. OPCON does not mean command. OPCON may be short-duration, mission specific; or, permanent as in the relationship between the CONUS-based 10 CWS units supporting ARSOF. In the Pacific Theater, the 1/1 SFG(A) maintains OPCON of OL-A, 320 STS, which in turn is OPCON'd to Special Operations Command Pacific (SOCPAC). SOCPAC maintains direct OPCON of the 353<sup>rd</sup> SOG. In Europe, the 1/10 SFG(A) maintains OPCON of OL-A, 321 STS, which in turn is OPCON'd to Special Operations Command Europe (SOCEUR). SOCEUR maintains direct OPCON of the 352<sup>nd</sup> SOG. Figure 1-2 shows the OPCON lines for AFSOC weather units.

Figure 1-1. AFSOC Weather Unit Administrative Alignment.

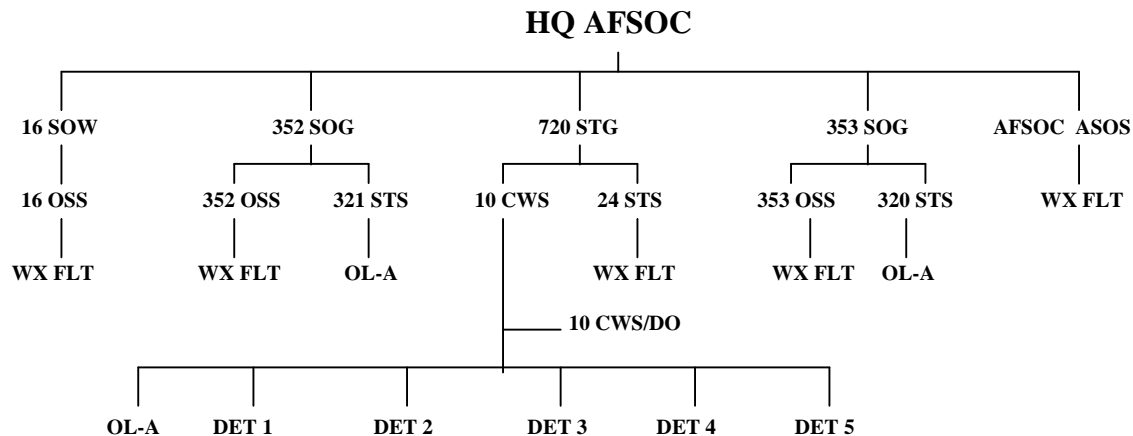
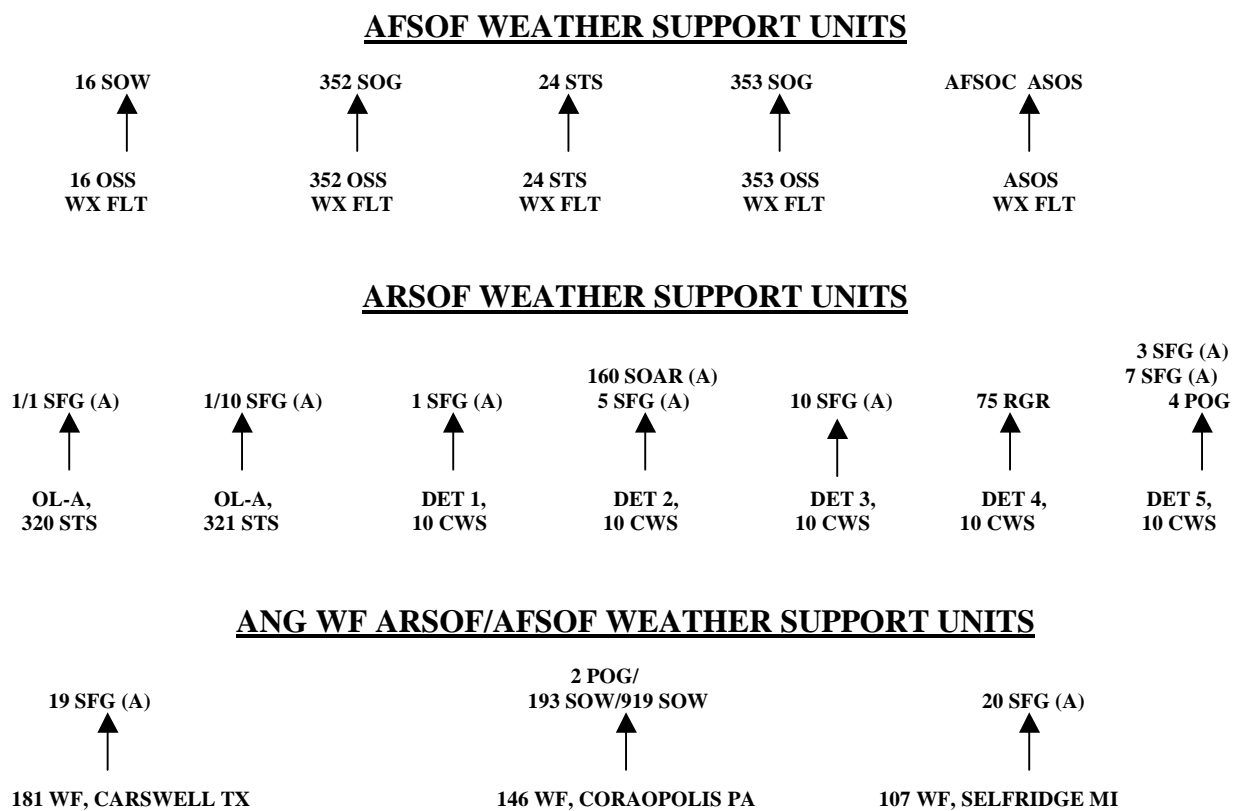


Figure 1-2. AFSOC Weather Unit Operational Control Alignment.



1.2.2.3. Functional Responsibilities. In most cases, the functional lines follow the command lines, back to HQ AFSOC/DOW. However, the functional lines for the overseas units do not follow command lines. The functional lines for the 352<sup>nd</sup> and 353<sup>rd</sup> OSS weather flights lead directly back to AFSOC/DOW. The two OL's have airborne combat weather missions similar to their counterparts in the CONUS-based 10 CWS; but, as explained above, these two units are not assigned to, or under the command of, the 10 CWS. However, they are linked to the 10 CWS in two ways. The first way is through the functional management line (including weather) the 720<sup>th</sup> STG has for all Special Tactics units, including the overseas STS's and their assigned OL's. The second link is through the 10 CWS commander, in his role as the USASOC SWO. Regardless of the issue, the 720 STG will act as the clearing house for all OL-A issues. The 720 STG determines which direction (AFSOC or USASOC) to forward issues received from the two overseas OLs. Figure 1-3 shows the functional management lines for AFSOC weather units.

1.2.2.4. There are two distinct functional responsibilities that must be understood.

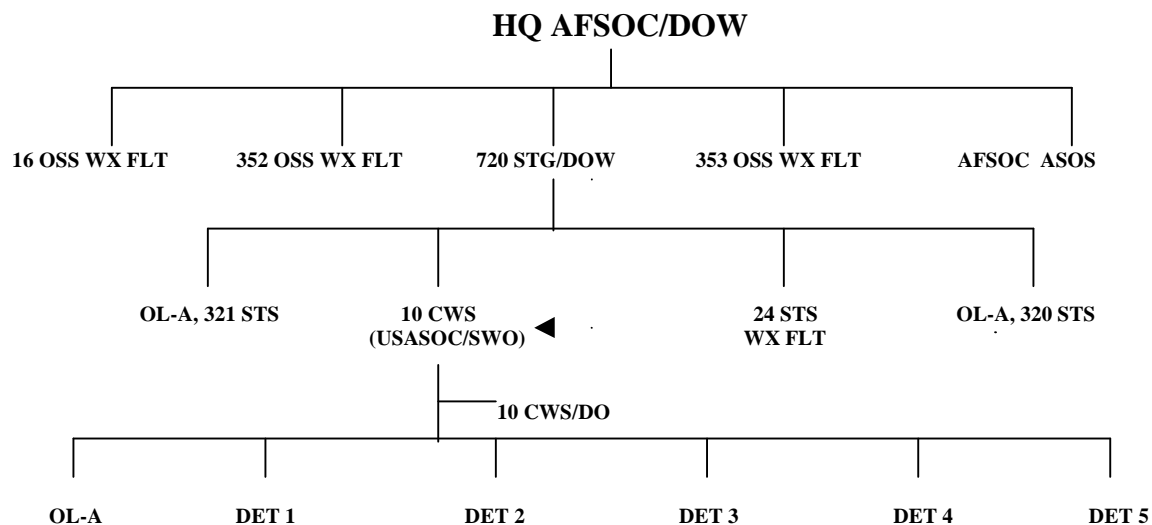
1.2.2.4.1. Functional Oversight. Establishes and oversees operational weather support tactics, techniques and procedures and issues regarding manning, training, equipping, and monitoring/evaluating AFSOC and AFSOC-gained weather units. Unresolved functional issues must be forwarded to the HQ AFSOC and/or the ANG weather functional manager for resolution. HQ AFSOC/DOW has functional oversight for all AFSOC weather support issues. The USASOC/SWO (10 CWS/CC), is the functional oversight focal point for all ARSOF weather support issues.

1.2.2.4.2. Functional Management. Establishes and enforces policy and procedures regarding all weather career field specific issues, to include manning, training, equipping, and taskings of AFSOC and AFSOC-gained weather units. AFSOC/DOW works with ANG weather functional manager to resolve AFSOC-gained ANG WF issues and is the focal point for issues to and from AF-level agencies for resolution. HQ AFSOC/DOW has functional management responsibilities for all AFSOF and ARSOF weather support issues. The USASOC SWO (10 CWS/CC) is responsible for resolving non-weather support issues with the US Army.

1.2.3. Weather operations are based on AFSOC's and USASOC's global missions, the need for rapid-response combat capabilities, and the highly diverse nature of special operations planning and execution at each level of command. These operations must provide decision-makers the weather information necessary to successfully plan and execute missions in support of the theater commander-in-chief's (CINC's) objectives.

1.2.4. Deployed weather personnel must be prepared to successfully perform their duties in an austere environment with limited communications and weather data. Standard and nonstandard tactical weather equipment, means of communications (secure and nonsecure), and proven methodologies must be learned and used.

1.2.5. Wartime and contingency planning will be performed and coordinated by the appropriate command-level weather units as required.

**Figure 1-3. AFSOC Weather Unit Functional Alignment.**

1.2.6. All levels will follow standardized reporting procedures. Standardized reporting assists commanders and staffs in assessing unit readiness and shortfalls, and helps incorporate successes into future operations.

**1.3. Waivers.** Units may request waivers to this instruction due to unique mission needs.

1.3.1. Forward requests by letter or message through the chain of command to HQ AFSOC/DOW. The request will include a description of the unique condition, conflicting requirement, and rationale for the waiver.

1.3.2. If approved, a waiver remains in effect for the life of this publication, unless AFSOC/DOW specifies a shorter period of time, cancels the waiver in writing, or publishes a change that alters the basis for the waiver.

## Chapter 2

### UNIT RESPONSIBILITIES

**2.1. Basic Concept.** Weather operations and responsibilities will vary based on the supported command level. Responsibilities for operations-related tasks such as readiness planning, training, and reporting are outlined below. Tasking directives, such as Operations Plans (OPLANs), operation orders (OPORDs), or mission-specific weather operation tasking messages may specify additional, unique concepts and procedures.

#### **2.2. HQ AFSOC/DOW:**

2.2.1. Provide functional oversight for AFSOF weather units and functional management for all AFSOC weather units.

2.2.2. Ensure AFSOC weather units are manned, trained, and equipped to support US Army and Air Force Special Operations Forces (SOF).

2.2.3. Validate all Air Force taskings, through the AFSOC Crisis Action Team (CAT), and forward to HQ AFSOC/DP for flowing to the base level.

2.2.4. Review and coordinate on OPLANs and OPORDs tasking AFSOC weather assets. Source Time-Phased Force Deployment Data (TPFDD) as required.

2.2.5. Coordinate with AFSOC planners to ensure weather requirements are included in OPLAN Deployment Manning Documents and Air Tasking Orders (ATOs) for deployment of AFSOC aircraft.

2.2.6. Ensure Meteorological and Oceanographic (METOC) and communications requirements are spelled out in Annexes H and K of joint force and component OPORDs, OPLANs, or Contingency Plans (CONPLANs).

2.2.7. Prepare weather annexes and appendices to AFSOC OPLANs and OPORDs. Provide guidance and assistance to subordinate units with the execution of garrison and deployed (METOC) operations.

2.2.8. Establish and monitor SOF weather basic Mission Essential Task List, training, and reporting requirements.

2.2.9. Coordinate unit-level technical and tactical staff assistance visits (SAV) schedule with 720<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Group (STG), 352<sup>nd</sup> SOG, 353<sup>rd</sup> SOG, and 16<sup>th</sup> OG. Technical and tactical SAVs will occur at a frequency not less than once every 2 years.

2.2.10. Lead or augment technical and tactical SAVs to AFSOC and AFSOC-gained weather units when requested.

- 2.2.11. Augment AFSOC/IG during operational readiness inspections of weather units.
- 2.2.12. Coordinate and validate weather requirements, personnel, equipment, and operations for United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM)-validated taskings.
- 2.2.13. Identify unit deployment requirements in Designed Operational Capabilities (DOC) statement in accordance with AFI 10-201 and for inclusion in the AF War and Mobilization Plan (WMP).
- 2.2.14. Identify Unit Type Code (UTC) availability requirements and provide units with a listing of core UTC taskings.
- 2.2.15. Identify wartime requirements for AFSOC-gained Air National Guard (ANG) weather flights (WFs) and coordinate with ANG/DOOSW.
- 2.2.16. Identify requirements and Concept of Operations (CONOPs) for future AF-standard fixed and deployable weather systems.
- 2.2.17. Plan, program, and budget for the acquisition of SOF-unique weather systems.
- 2.2.18. Monitor unit's SORTS reports.
- 2.2.19. Develop a standardized master training plan for weather unit technical and tactical training.

**2.3. 720th Special Tactics Group (720 STG):**

- 2.3.1. Assist 10 CWS/CC with functional oversight and support to Army SOF (ARSOF) weather support units.
- 2.3.2. Assist subordinate units with development of procedures for in-garrison and deployed weather operations.
- 2.3.3. Ensure subordinate weather units are scheduled for technical and tactical SAVs at a frequency not less than once every 2 years.
- 2.3.4. Lead or augment technical and tactical SAVs to AFSOC and AFSOC-gained weather units when requested.
- 2.3.5. Assist HQ AFSOC/DOW in maintaining DOCs, UTCs, weather annexes and appendices, LOGDETs, and TPFDD to OPLAN and OPORDs, as required.
- 2.3.6. Ensure METOC and communications requirements are spelled out in Annexes H and K of joint force and component OPORDs, OPLANs, or CONPLANs.



2.3.7. Assist subordinate units with acquisition and planning of technical and tactical weather training.

2.3.8. Function as proponent for AFSOC Combat Weather Team (Airborne) unique equipment and training.

2.3.9. Forward manpower, equipment, and training deficiencies to HQ AFSOC/DOW for resolution.

2.3.10. Ensure subordinate unit training programs are maintained and reported in accordance with Air Force and AFSOC guidance.

#### **2.4. 352<sup>nd</sup> SOG, 353<sup>rd</sup> SOG, and 16<sup>th</sup> OG:**

2.4.1. Assist subordinate units with development of guidance for all issues concerning in-garrison and deployed operations.

2.4.2. Ensure subordinate weather units are scheduled for technical and tactical SAVs at a frequency not less than once every two years.

2.4.3. Assist subordinate units with acquisition, planning, and performance of technical and tactical training.

2.4.4. Forward manpower, equipment, and training deficiencies to HQ AFSOC/DOW for resolution.

2.4.5. Ensure subordinate unit training programs are maintained and reported in accordance with Air Force and AFSOC guidance.

#### **2.5. 10<sup>th</sup> Combat Weather Squadron (10 CWS) Commander:**

2.5.1. Perform duties as the US Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) Staff Weather Officer (SWO).

2.5.2. Provide functional oversight to all ARSOF weather support units, to include OL-A, 320<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Squadron (STS) and OL-A, 321 STS.

2.5.3. Prepare required weather annexes, appendices, and TPFDD to OPLANs and OPORDs. When designated as Army Forces (ARFOR) SWO, develop letters of instruction (LOIs) outlining procedures and responsibilities to tasked units supporting Army operations.

2.5.4. Forward deployment taskings through command channels to the AFSOC CAT with an information copy, at a minimum, to HQ AFSOC/DOW.

2.5.5. Adhere to Joint Pub 3-59 when designated as the lead agency for deliberate or contingency planning by the joint force commander.

2.5.6. Coordinate and validate ARSOF weather requirements, personnel, equipment, and operations for USSOCOM-validated taskings.

2.5.7. Use ARSOF weather support UTCs to identify support requirements to deploying ARFOR. These UTCs will be included in the TPFDD, if TPFDD is used.

2.5.8. Crossfeed After-Action Reports (AARs) to HQ AFSOC/DOW in accordance with this instruction and AFI 10-204, *Participation in the Military Exercise Program*.

**2.6. Operations Support Squadrons (OSS)/10th Combat Weather Squadron (10 CWS)/AFSOC Air Support Operations Squadron (ASOS)/320<sup>th</sup> Special Tactics Squadron/321<sup>st</sup> Special Tactics Squadron will:**

2.6.1. Provide weather personnel and equipment as tasked in OPLANs, OPORDs, and AFSOC, USASOC, SOCPAC, SOCEUR or USSOCOM taskings.

2.6.2. Ensure METOC and communications requirements are spelled out in Annexes H and K of OPORDs, OPLANs, or CONPLANs.

2.6.3. Lead or augment both technical and tactical SAVs to AFSOC and AFSOC-gained weather units when requested.

2.6.4. Develop standardized forecast product verification criteria for subordinate units. Report monthly verification statistics through channels to HQ AFSOC/DOW.

2.6.5. Submit SORTS reports in accordance with AFI 10-201, *Status of Resources and Training system*.

2.6.6. Submit reports in accordance with this instruction and AF-level guidance.

2.6.7. Ensure subordinate units use standardized SOPs.

2.6.8. Identify and submit unit manpower, training, and equipment requirements and shortfalls through command lines for resolution.

2.6.9. Ensure subordinate units adhere to supported customer safety guidance, rules, and procedures when conducting operations and/or training. Units operating with the Army will adhere to Army guidance. Units operating with an AF unit will adhere to AF safety guidance.

**2.7. Weather Flights/Detachments/Operating Locations:**

2.7.1. Integrate wartime methods and procedures into peacetime operations as closely as possible without compromising flight/ground safety or training effectiveness.

2.7.2. Coordinate with aligned active and reserve forces to determine weather requirements and establish procedures to meet these requirements.

2.7.3. Prepare required weather annexes, appendices, and TPFDD to OPLANs and OPORDs. When designated as ARFOR SWO, JMO, or JSOTF SMO develop letters of instruction (LOIs) outlining procedures and responsibilities to tasked units supporting SOF or Army operations.

2.7.4. Ensure METOC and communications requirements are spelled out in Annexes H and K of OPORDs, OPLANs, or CONPLANs.

2.7.5. Use ARFOR weather support UTCs to identify requirements to deploying Army customer. Include these UTCs in the TPFDD, if TPFDD is used.

2.7.6. Provide trained personnel and equipment to support validated taskings identified in OPLANs, OPORDs, or AFSOC, SOCPAC, SOCEUR, or USASOC validated taskings.

2.7.7. Coordinate and validate weather support requirements, personnel, equipment, and operations with the designated Joint METOC Officer (JMO), HQ AFSOC/DOW, 720 STG, theater SOC, and theater Senior METOC Officer when tasked to support deployed operations.

2.7.8. Notify HQ AFSOC/DOW through appropriate channels when personnel and/or equipment are tasked to deploy in support of contingency operations, higher headquarters- directed exercises, and rotational deployments.

2.7.9. When deployed, coordinate with supported Air Force or Army component or JMO on weather operational requirements and personnel, equipment, or operational shortfalls.

2.7.10. Submit AARs in accordance with this instruction and AFI 10-204.

2.7.11. Adhere to Joint Pub 3-59 when supporting joint operations.

2.7.12. Identify and submit unit manpower, training, and equipment requirements and shortfalls through command lines for resolution.

2.7.13. Conduct training using a master training plan for technical and tactical training. Ensure training programs are maintained and reported in accordance with Air Force and AFSOC guidance.

2.7.14. Plan and budget operations and maintenance (O&M) funds for all unit weather equipment.

2.7.15. Adhere to US Army safety policy and procedures when conducting operations and/or training with the Army. Adhere to AF safety policy and procedures when conducting operations and/or training with an AF unit.

### Chapter 3

## OPERATIONS

**3.1. General.** This chapter identifies requirements for planning, predeployment, deployment, employment, redeployment, and recovery/reconstitution operations. Wartime and contingency planning should be conducted IAW AFMAN 10-401, *Operation Plan and Concept Plan Development and Implementation*. There are different levels of responsibility and taskings in the strategic, operational, and tactical planning process. See AFMAN 15-125, *Weather Station Operations*, for additional references for weather operations.

**3.2. Planning.** At the unit level, advance planning will ensure the unit and/or individuals are prepared to accomplish short-notice deployments. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following when planning:

3.2.1. Identify customer support requirements and technical and tactical training needed to meet those requirements.

3.2.2. Identify wartime taskings and duties.

3.2.3. Identify required communications and equipment needed to operate in a deployed environment.

3.2.4. Identify shortfalls and augmentation requests through channels to HQ AFSOC/DOW and/or the USASOC SWO for resolution.

3.2.5. Conduct and document technical and tactical training, IAW the unit mission essential task list or master training plan, needed to meet customer requirements.

3.2.6. Establish and maintain deployment binders to assist in a smooth and quick transition to a wartime posture.

3.2.7. Document weather support requirements, both in-garrison and deployed, in a weather support plan or similar document.

3.2.8. Implement procedures, IAW higher headquarters guidance, to track weather support effectiveness. Units will report statistics to HQ AFSOC/DOW, through appropriate channels, in monthly reports and AARs.

**3.3 Predeployment.** Once notified to deploy, the unit must be prepared to smoothly transition from in-garrison to deployed operations. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following during the predeployment phase of an operation:

3.3.1. SWO/SWNCOs will document coordination and support in a unit exercise/contingency file/folder once a tasking to deploy is received and verified.

3.3.2. Select trained personnel to support active, guard, and reserve forces as identified in core taskings, OPLANs, OPORDs, or higher headquarters tasking messages. Match proper personnel and equipment to support the UTC.

3.3.3. Determine operational status and availability of equipment and communications. Identify and submit unit manpower, training, and equipment requirements and shortfalls through command lines for resolution.

3.3.4. Finalize weather support requirements, personnel, equipment, and operations with the designated Joint METOC Officer (JMO), HQ AFSOC/DOW, 720 STG, theater SOC, and/or theater Senior METOC Officer (SMO) when tasked to support deployed operations.

**3.4. Deployment.** Weather units must be prepared to support short-notice, worldwide deployments. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following when conducting deployment operations:

3.4.1. Individuals/units will deploy in accordance with the appropriate contingency/exercise TPFDD.

3.4.2. Personnel will deploy with a copy of their Contingency, Exercise, or Mobility (CEM) TDY orders, verbal, or movement orders.

3.4.3. SWOs will forward a list of taskings through command channels to the AFSOC CAT and an information copy, at a minimum, to HQ AFSOC/DOW. Include name, grade, and AFSC of deployed personnel and a list of deployed weather equipment.

3.4.4. Conduct operations in accordance with this instruction, local directives, and applicable OPLANs, OPORDs, and directives.

3.4.5. Coordinate with supported Air Force or Army component or Joint Task Force (JTF)/Joint Special Operations Task Force (JSOTF) SWOs on weather requirements and personnel, equipment, or operational shortfalls.

**3.5. Employment.** Weather forecasters must always keep the customer informed of weather information necessary to accomplish the mission. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following when conducting employment operations:

3.5.1. Ensure all personnel are accounted for and provided adequate security and safety.

3.5.2. Evaluate support plan and change accordingly to ensure support requirements are met.

3.5.3. Track weather support effectiveness when deployed and report statistics to HQ AFSOC/DOW, through appropriate channels in AARs.

3.5.4. Weather Support. Deployed observing and forecasting support should be completed IAW OPLANs, AFMAN 15-111, *Surface Weather Observations*, AFMAN 15-125, *Weather Station*

*Operations*, and other applicable directives to the fullest extent possible. It is critical that deployed teams conduct weather and customer support operations in a consistent, standardized manner.

3.5.4.1. Local and Longline Dissemination. Procedures must be available to ensure local and longline dissemination of weather products to appropriate customers.

3.5.4.2. Standing Operating Procedures (SOP). Weather SOPs must be available for every deployment to ensure standardized support. Procedures must also cover accessing alternate weather sources and backup procedures. SOPs must be in place in order to ensure proper setup, operation, user maintenance, and tear-down of deployed equipment.

3.5.4.3. Tactical Analysis and Forecast Program (TAFP). Procedures must be in place to ensure a standardized approach to weather forecasting. Units will use their established TAFP when deployed.

3.5.4.4. Area of Operations (AO) Familiarization Packages. AO Familiarization Packages are critical to providing deployed weather support. Deployed teams must constantly review and update this guidance to ensure currency.

3.5.4.5. Meteorological Watch (METWATCH). METWATCH is absolutely critical to ensure timely issuance of forecast amendments, WWs/WAs/weather watches, and timely updates to aircrews, the deployed commander, and staff. Units will establish procedures to ensure effective METWATCH of weather conditions that could affect forecast products and/or impact ongoing missions. Units will provide or arrange for weather warning, watch, and advisory support to meet deployed customer requirements.

3.5.4.7. Weather Briefings. Deployed forecasters must present standardized briefings to their customers. Forecasters will use DD Form 175-1, **Flight Weather Briefing**, or AFSOC Form 87, **AFSOC Mission Weather Briefing**, to document official flight weather briefings, or a locally developed form to document verbal flight weather briefings. Units will use the AFSOC Form 87, **AFSOC Mission Weather Briefing**, when supporting AFSOC aircraft. AFMAN 15-125, *Weather Station Operations*, and AFSOCI 15-101, *AFSOC Weather Support Requirements*, spell out specific flight weather briefing requirements.

3.5.4.8. Weather Debriefings. Forecasters must gather feedback from the customer, whether it is an aviator or ground force, to determine the accuracy of the forecast support. Units will develop procedures to ensure weather debriefings are conducted. To the extent possible, this information should be disseminated locally and longline to ensure all concerned agencies have access to the information.

3.5.5. Quality Control (QC). Units will have procedures to conduct QC on weather products. The primary focus will be on-the-spot QC.

**3.6. Redeployment.** Units must be capable of redeployment in a timely and orderly fashion once deployment operations are over. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following during redeployment operations:

3.6.1. Inventory all equipment. Determine if equipment is operational and/or if there are missing components.

3.6.1.1. Ensure equipment is properly cleaned, packed, and stored prior to shipment.

3.6.1.2. Complete Report of Survey for missing or damaged equipment.

3.6.2. Ensure classified material is accounted for and disposed of properly.

3.6.3. Begin gathering data for AAR preparation.

3.6.4. Prepare personnel for redeployment to home station.

**3.7. Recovery/Reconstitution.** This phase is critical to ensure units are prepared to carry out the next deployment or exercise tasking. At a minimum, units will accomplish the following during recovery/reconstitution operations:

3.7.1. Complete all AARs and forward upchannel.

3.7.2. Inventory/restock deployment kits. Prepare them for next deployment.

3.7.3. Incorporate lessons learned, rules of thumb, etc., into operating procedures, support plans, master training plans, TAFP, etc., in order to improve performance during the next deployment.

3.7.4. Update appropriate Area of Operation (AO) familiarization packages based on information gathered during deployment.

3.7.5. Perform, schedule, or arrange for maintenance on equipment to ensure readiness for the next deployment.

3.7.6. Forward documented weather observations from deployed locations to AFCCC.

3.7.7. File travel voucher, even if it will be a no cost/pay voucher, with servicing Military Personnel Flight (MPF). Vouchers are used by MAJCOM and AF-level agencies to document and track PERSTEMPO/OPS TEMPO and may be used to adjust overseas return dates for the member.

## Chapter 4

### REPORTS

**4.1. General.** Reports provide commanders information necessary to evaluate the readiness of assigned forces. They also provide an excellent opportunity to review performance and crossfeed valuable lessons learned. The following reports are standard for AFSOC weather units and are in addition to any reporting requirements of the supported customer and/or Air Force directives (e.g., SITREPs or MISREPs).

**4.2. Contingency-/Exercise-Generated Reports.** Reports will be submitted for all higher headquarters-directed exercises or contingencies as specified by the OPORD, Exercise Order, LOI tasking message, or this instruction. Examples and instructions for reports will be included in the deployment binder.

**4.2.1. Staff Weather Officer Report (SWOREP).** SWOREPs help identify deployed unit functional issues early and initiate possible solutions. SWOREPs will be submitted for all contingency operations and JCS or CINCSOC-directed exercises. For all other exercises, Staff Weather Officer Reports (SWOREP) are optional. The senior AFSOC weather person at each deployed location will submit the SWOREP. At locations with more than one AFSOC weather unit, a consolidated report may be submitted. Submit reports through channels to HQ AFSOC/DOW. All reports should be coordinated with your supported customer. The initial SWOREP will be submitted no later than 24 hours after beginning operations. Follow-up reports will be submitted weekly, or more often as changes and/or updates occur.

**4.2.1.1. Contents.** In the initial report give an overview of conditions upon arrival, current conditions, and ability to meet customer requirements. Follow-up reports should include updates, changes, etc., to status and/or information previously reported. Advise whether assistance is required. SWOREPs will include, but are not limited to:

**4.2.1.1.1. Personnel.** Report number of personnel available for duty. Follow up reports should include all gains, losses, and changes in duty status. When describing casualties, describe cause and extent of injuries. Note whether replacements are needed and identify surplus personnel.

**4.2.1.1.2. Equipment.** List deployed equipment and operational status. Follow-up reports should include existing or anticipated equipment and supply problems and actions taken and/or assistance needed.

**4.2.1.1.3. Communication.** List available communications to include phone numbers and type. Follow-up reports should include changes in the quality of communications and how it affects mission capability.

**4.2.1.1.4. Weather Support.** Include significant impacts to operations due to weather or weather support. Describe the quality and sufficiency of weather support provided and the feedback (positive and negative) from the user. Evaluate Centralized Production Facility products



received from Theater Weather Center, Joint METOC Forecast Unit, Air Force Weather Agency, etc., and recommend improvements and/or changes.

4.2.1.1.5. Weather Support Evaluation. For deployments longer than 30 days, units will report verification statistics. Statistics will be included in the SWOREP every 30 days.

4.2.1.1.6. Remarks. Report major successes, problem areas, and other comments on weather support.

4.2.2. After-Action Report. Submit within 30 days of end of exercise (ENDEX) or operation termination through channels to HQ AFSOC/DOW.

4.2.2.1. Each SWO/SWNCO will keep notes and establish a unit exercise/contingency log book once a tasking to deploy is received and verified.

4.2.2.2. Include problems as they occur, to include corrective actions taken or initiated.

4.2.2.3. Include unresolved problems using issue, discussion, recommendation format. Focus on items requiring higher headquarters action and identify as action items.

4.2.2.4. Include lessons learned during deployments for crossfeed.

4.2.2.5. Include discussion on communications effectiveness by network, circuit or system.

4.2.2.6. List weather site survey data to include communications, equipment, location, etc.

4.2.2.7. Weather Support Evaluation. Include forecast verification statistics if not previously reported in a SWOREP.

4.2.3. End-of-Tour Reports. For ongoing contingency rotational deployments, an end-of-tour report is required from all tasked AFSOC personnel filling either an NCOIC or OIC position. Forward reports to HQ AFSOC/DOW within 30 days of end-of-tour date.

4.2.3.1. End of tour reports should, at a minimum, cover topics included in the AAR. It will be an individual's general impression of all phases of the operations. Recommendations for changes and improvements may be included.

### **4.3. Readiness Reporting:**

4.3.1. Units will report readiness status in SORTS report.

4.3.2. Units will follow the guidelines in AFI 10-201, *Status of Resources and Training System*, and AFSOC Supplement 1.

## Chapter 5

### AFSOC-GAINED AIR NATIONAL GUARD (ANG) WEATHER FLIGHT (WF) PROGRAM

**5.1. Scope.** AFSOC-gained ANG WFs support USASOC-gained US Army SFGs and AFSOC-gained ANG and AFRC units.

#### **5.2. Concept of Operations:**

5.2.1. When mobilized, ANG WFs are gained through HQ AFSOC to provide weather support augmentation to AF and Army combat forces.

5.2.2. In peacetime:

5.2.2.1. They are under the command of The Adjutant General (TAG) of the state in which they reside.

5.2.2.2. The ANG weather functional manager is ANG/DOOSW.

5.2.3. Following is the alignment of ANG WFs to active duty units for non-formal continuation training purposes.

107<sup>th</sup> Combat Weather Flight, Selfridge ANGB, MI; 10<sup>th</sup> Combat Weather Squadron  
146<sup>th</sup> Combat Weather Flight, Coraopolis PA; 16<sup>th</sup> Special Operations Wing  
181<sup>st</sup> Combat Weather Flight, Carswell Field, TX; 10<sup>th</sup> Combat Weather Squadron

5.2.4. All units must ensure that HQ AFSOC/DOW is notified when a unit supported by an AFSOC-gained ANG WF is scheduled for activation or otherwise tasked for a mission.

#### **5.3. HQ AFSOC/DOW Responsibilities:**

5.3.1. Validate wartime requirements for National Guard weather support.

5.3.2. Assist ANG/DOOSW in determining WF alignment and organizational structure to include alignment with active duty units for training and assistance purposes.

5.3.3. Review and validate ANG WF DOC statements. Submit ANG WF DOCs through channels to HQ AFSOC/DO for approval. ANG WF DOCs are prepared by ANG/DOOSW.

5.3.4. Review and validate ANG WF manpower changes for inclusion in the Air Force manpower system. Submit ANG/WF manpower changes to HQ AFSOC/XPM for inclusion in the Air Force manpower system.

5.3.5. Coordinate technical and tactical SAV schedule with ANG/DOOSW. Both technical and tactical SAVs will occur at a frequency no less than once every 2 years.

5.3.6. Lead or augment technical and tactical SAVs to AFSOC-gained ANG WFs when requested.

5.3.7. Program Military Personnel Appropriation (MPA) man-days for ANG WFs to support contingency operations and selective exercise tours.

5.3.8. Provide assistance to ANG/DOOSW in assigning ANG WF personnel to active duty weather units for training upon completion of formal training schools.

5.3.9. Act as the active duty functional advisor for AFSOC-gained ANG WFs.

#### **5.4. 720th Special Tactics Group Responsibilities to ANG WFs Supporting USASOC-Gained Units.**

5.4.1. Provide pertinent information, operational policy, and guidance.

5.4.2. Provide assistance to AFSOC and 10 CWS in ensuring ANG WFs are included in supported unit-level exercises.

5.4.3. Lead or augment tactical and technical SAVs when requested.

5.4.4. Inform ANG/DOOSW and ANG WFs of new techniques, procedures, tactics, and doctrines.

5.4.5. Coordinate with ANG/DOOSW, 10 CWS, and HQ AFSOC/DOW to ensure assigned gained ANG WFs are integrated into Army and Air Force taskings/plans.

#### **5.5. 10th Combat Weather Squadron Responsibilities to ANG WFs Supporting USASOC-Gained Units.**

5.5.1. Notify 720 STG/DOCW and HQ AFSOC/DOW of any support problems encountered.

5.5.2. Provide on-the-job training (garrison and tactical) to ANG SWOs, forecasters, and observers temporarily assigned to 10 CWS active duty units.

5.5.3. Crossfeed operating procedures, operating instructions, and programs.

5.5.4. Lead or augment technical and tactical SAVs as requested.

5.5.5. Notify AFSOC/DOW when a unit supported by an AFSOC-gained WF is scheduled or selected for activation.

#### **5.6. 16<sup>th</sup> Operations Support Squadron Responsibilities to ANG WFs Supporting AFSOC-Gained Units:**

- 5.6.1. Notify HQ AFSOC/DOW of any support problems encountered.
- 5.6.2. Provide on-the-job training (garrison and tactical) to ANG SWOs, forecasters, and observers temporarily assigned.
- 5.6.3. Crossfeed operating procedures, operating instructions, and programs.
- 5.6.4. Augment technical and tactical SAVs as requested.

### **5.7. ANG Weather Flights:**

- 5.7.1. Integrate wartime weather operations methods and procedures into peacetime operations as closely as possible without compromising flight/ground safety or training effectiveness.
- 5.7.2. Coordinate with aligned guard and reserve forces to determine weather requirements and establish procedures to meet these requirements.
- 5.7.3. Notify HQ AFSOC/DOW through appropriate channels, when weather personnel and/or equipment are tasked to deploy in support of contingency operations, higher headquarters-directed exercises, and rotational deployments.
- 5.7.4. Provide trained personnel and equipment to support active, guard, and reserve forces as identified in core taskings, OPLANs, OPORDs, or AFSOC tasking messages.
- 5.7.5. Submit reports in accordance with this instruction, AFI 10-204, and AFI 10-201.
- 5.7.6. When deployed, coordinate with supported Air Force or Army component or JTF SWOs on weather operational requirements and personnel, equipment, or operational shortfalls.
- 5.7.7. Identify and submit unit manpower, training, and equipment requirements and shortfalls through command lines for resolution.
- 5.7.8. Plan and budget for operations and maintenance of all unit weather equipment.

## Attachment 1

## GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION

**AAR**—After-Actions Report  
**AO**—Area of Operations  
**ARFOR**—Army Forces  
**ARSO**F—Army Special Operations Forces  
**ASOS**—Air Support Operations Squadron  
**ATO**—Air Tasking Order  
**CAT**—Crisis Action Team  
**CEM**—Contingency, Exercise, or Mobility  
**CONOPS**—Concept of Operations  
**CONPLAN**—Concept Plan  
**CWS**—Combat Weather Squadron  
**DOC**—Designed Operational Capability  
**DOW**—Weather Division  
**JMO**—Joint METOC Officer  
**JSOTF**—Joint Special Operations Task Force  
**JTF**—Joint Task Force  
**LOI**—Letter of Instruction  
**METOC**—Meteorological and Oceanographic  
**METWATCH**—Meteorological Watch  
**OL**—Operating Location  
**O&M**—Operations and Maintenance  
**OPLAN**—Operations Plan  
**OPORD**—Operations Order  
**OSS**—Operations Support Squadron  
**SAV**—Staff Assistance Visit  
**SFG**—Special Forces Group  
**SITREP**—Situation Report  
**SMO**—Senior METOC Officer  
**SOF**—Special Operations Forces  
**SOG**—Special Operations Group  
**SOP**—Standing Operating Procedure  
**SORTS**—Status of Resources and Training System  
**STG**—Special Tactics Group  
**STS**—Special Tactics Squadron  
**SWO**—Staff Weather Officer  
**SWOREP**—SWO Report  
**TPFDD**—Time-Phased Force Deployment Data  
**USASOC**—United States Army Special Operations Command  
**UTC**—Unit Type Code  
**WA**—Weather Advisory  
**WF**—Weather Flight  
**WW**—Weather Warning